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FRANK A. MUNSEY.

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FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1907.

An Opportunity Lost.

It is to be regretted that the War Department has decided to put off indefinitely the test of a transcontinental trip for horses in which the value of the Arab was to have been ascertained as against the qualities of the broncho and the plain horse. The illness of Homer Davenport's Arabian stallion makes the postponement necessary, as that horse was presumed to be the leading competitor for long-distance honors, and was expected by his artist owner to revolutionize methods of marching. What he would have done in the rough journey from ocean to ocean must remain a problem, but we are not at all sure that the hardy broncho would not have beaten him, and there was an excellent chance that the army mule entered in the tramp would have "done up" all his competitors.

For the sake of this last named, non-aristocratic but eminently useful animal who was just about to vindicate himself for all time, it is much to be regretted that Mr. Davenport's stallion is indisposed.

No Elder Statesmen Here.

A body of "Elder Statesmen" has been added to the Japanese constitutional system. It consists of retired public servants and eminent publicists who, though holding no official position whatever, are yet able to give their help in the supreme guidance of national affairs. England now hopes for something to meet the same need, and nominates Lord Cromer as a charter member.

Either these two progressive nations misname their new councilors or they are to be wholly titular institutions. For nations grow in wisdom, as in power, through the activity of young minds; and men likely to prove serviceable in any such advisory capacity will belong—whatever their age in years—with hale and vigorous youth in activity and strength of mind.

What fallacy it would be here in America to create such a body! Among our most conspicuous "elder statesmen" are Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Cannon, Mr. Olney, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Pettus, Mr. Hale, Mr. Frye, Mr. Allison, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Teller. Were they to be relegated to the retired list, the nation would lose half its leaders at the front.

Keeping the Language Alive.

"Swashbuckling"—as a verb—has sunk the proud old London Spectator to the depths of etymological confusion and avoidance. The word should have been "swashbucklering." A "swashbuckler" was, of course, the ruffler or swaggerer who "swashed" his buckler, or smote his shield, to strike terror into beholders. To say "swashbuckling" is quite as vulgar, as careless, as ignorant, as to say "butchering" when one means "butchery."

So much for the confession. The plea in avoidance is Dryden's noble principle: "I trade both with the living and the dead for the enrichment of our tongue." "We should be poorer," says the Spectator, "if we kept out all ill-formed words." So we must accept such unconscious offenders as "objectionable," "reliable," and "laughable," and even hold out a welcoming hand to slang. "Make good," "nothing doing," "cut it out," and "lambast," are not the American slang the Spectator would approve. It inclines rather to "shelved," "shunted," "side-tracked," "cinch," "shyster," and "rubber-neck!" It accepts also "to strike oil," "to pan out," and "to fire out," not realizing, apparently, that all those phrases are entirely admissible as good metaphors, and that the same tendency which made sheriff out of shire-reeve has shortened "to fire out" into the plain directness of "to fire."

The value of a phrase is its help in making meaning unmistakable. Language is exclusively a medium for expressing thought. Those words live which justify themselves; and it makes no difference how they originated, whether, like "shamefaced," they are corruptions of similar words (in this case "shamefast") or pure coinage like "make good" and "nothing doing." The living standards are the work of men who wrote

the tongue their neighbors spoke, not the words approved by logic and the dictionaries. Dryden is a fair illustration; Addison a better one. The former did not pause before "shamefaced," and the latter caught at "spark" as livelier, happier and terser than "dandy" or "gallant." In the end it is the people, not the pedants, who make a tongue, and English, which is purer here than in its old home, is also the more healthful for being kept green by new shoots.

The Post-Roads Clause.

What will be noticed less than many other things in the Indianapolis speech, and yet what will be regarded by close students as its most significant sentence, is that expression by the President of his conviction that, under the Federal reservation of power to establish and maintain post roads, the Government has authority broad enough to justify it in taking complete charge of railroad regulation, both as to State and inter-State commerce.

It is hardly possible that Mr. Roosevelt should have made so sweeping a statement without assurance that he would have the support of the strong lawyers of his Cabinet, and among his outside advisers. It is a remarkable advance from the positions that have so generally been held concerning the Federal and State powers over railroads.

If the President is right—and there is no doubt that his opinion is entertained by an increasing body of public opinion—then Congress has the power to elbow the States entirely out of the whole field of railroad control and to assume the entire function to itself. Without serious doubt, as we view it, this is precisely what ought to be done. The conflict between State and Federal measures has been more marked and striking in the last year than ever before; but it is certain that unless effective authority is centralized in the Federal Government, the whole effort at regulation and control will be made more and more difficult. It would be a good thing to send to the Supreme Court a piece of legislation that would afford opportunity for a final determination of this question.

"In the Beginning."

The apostles of all sorts of crankisms in the matter of food and clothing invariably delight to tell us what enormous blessings primitive man enjoyed in the way of health and strength. They cannot resist drawing parallels between modern conditions and our own, always, of course, to the manifest disadvantage of our own.

Only a few days ago one of those marvelous magazines devoted to every sort of fad, spookism, and mental, moral, and physical weirdness, published an advertisement from one of the apostles of the simplest kind of life, headed by him "In the Beginning." He announced that "in the beginning" disease was unknown, and he thereafter laid down these entertaining propositions:

Man didn't live in houses, and therefore breathed pure, fresh air all the time, instead of sometimes or "regularly." (He lived in tropical climates, by the way.)

He didn't eat too much, to thus cause such trouble for himself as we haven't room here to even commence telling you about. There was no temptation to do so, because the pleasure of eating ceased when his body's demands were satisfied, just as with wild animals now. He didn't cook his food; he wasn't discovered then. But neither did he eat raw turnips, for instance. For the same reason he didn't eat them.

You wouldn't like it raw, would you? Likewise he couldn't do many other things impossible without fire. He didn't use alcohol, tobacco, tea, or coffee. He couldn't prepare them as we do, and his appetite wasn't depraved enough to tempt him. He didn't use street cars and other contrivances to deprive him of his needed exercise. His limbs brought him where he wanted to go, and besides, he was quite an adept at tree-climbing. He didn't wear clothes, and so he was always in contact with his skin, and the sunshine frequently. Imagine a plant or flower dressed in clothes all day and covered up at night, and you'll see the point.

Now, if it is proper to cite certain things that man didn't have "in the beginning," it is proper to cite others. Let us try a few:

"In the beginning," then, man didn't travel by swift and luxurious steam railroad trains. He either footed it or toiled painfully along on the back of a jackass.

"In the beginning" man did not have symphony concerts of masterful and exquisite music. He banged on a tom-tom and regarded that as sufficiently esthetic.

"In the beginning" man did not know the delights of a great play interpreted by great actors. He listened to the howlings of a lot of frenzied idiots painted like animals or wearing hideous masks.

"In the beginning" man had no telegraph to flash messages of cheer, or life or death importance thousands of miles. He was deaf to all that went on a league away from his little village.

"In the beginning" man had no telephone. He could not hear a well-beloved voice miles away, nor realize on the vast usefulness of the article for the proper regulation of his daily life.

As a matter of fact, there are a good many things that man did not have "in the beginning" that are very essential, comfortable, and highly satisfactory things to have now. To say that man did or did not do so and so when he was a

primitive savage is no argument one way or the other, least of all that our uncouth and ignorant progenitors knew anything about hygiene or cared a rap.

Spite of all the nature cranks and healers in the world, it is pretty well ascertained that the human race was never as vigorous, as long lived, as free from pestilence and disease as it is today. The men who hark back to the period of the missing link in an endeavor to bolster up their peculiar fads of diet and clothes are simply wasting their breath in an effort that can convince the most simple minded of the human race. The present is the best era in the history of man, and we all ought to be glad we are having a share of it.

The experience of balloonists who go touring by the air route in England and get blown off into the sea ought after while to convince them that their little country isn't fit for that sort of sport. They should keep in mind the misgivings which an American tourist once expressed in London when asked how he liked England. "Well," he said, "I would be well enough only that I'm always afraid to walk out after dark for fear of stepping off into the water."

Mr. Bryan declares that we have not reached the question of Government ownership of railroads. The rest of us may not have, but Mr. Bryan certainly reached for it some months ago.

Building a canal is certainly perplexing. A preacher who has been down there is attacking moral conditions and declaring that the Zone is too wide open; while at the same time a commission of engineers has been gravely concerned by the fear that the canal will go dry.

The announcement by Winston Churchill that he is out of politics ought to prepare the community for something in the line of political novels, which Mr. Churchill has doubtless found more profitable.

One weakness about any forecast of Mexico is that this country is to be found in the fact the President keeps right on standing by his proposition that he doesn't want a third term.

The movement to reduce the pay of the Spanish navy would seem to be justified by a consideration of the sort of service it renders.

The English cousin is ready to give his endorsement to the Roosevelt program in view of the fact that it looks like adopting English company laws.

ALLEGED FORGER  
READY TO RETURN

Harding, Alias Hart, Willing to Come Back Without Requisition.

H. H. Harding, alias J. H. Hart, who is wanted here on charges of forgery and the obtaining of money under false pretenses, and who was arrested the early part of the week in Council Bluffs, Iowa, will probably be brought to Washington the middle of next week. Central Office Detective Burlingame, who has arrived in Council Bluffs, wired Major Sylvester that Harding will not make a fight, and will return without requisition papers.

The charge against Harding is that he deposited a worthless check for \$500 in a Washington bank, and the same day succeeded in having a check on this deposit for \$100 cashed by a merchant in this city.

It is alleged, further, that under the name of J. H. Hart he passed a valuable check for \$500 on a hotel at Oklahoma City, Okla. The check was drawn on the Second National Bank, of this city. Again, on May 11, at Fort Collins, Col., it is charged, he deposited for collection a check for \$500.

G. W. U. GRADUATES TO  
HEAR DR. HARLAN

The Rev. Dr. Richard Harlan will deliver the baccalaureate sermon to the students who are to receive degrees from George Washington University this year, at Memorial Continental Hall on Sunday.

This will be the initial event on the program of the eighty-sixth annual commencement of the university. The students, 219 in number, with the faculty and trustees, will be present in academic dress.

Various departments of the university are represented in the graduating class, as follows: Law school, 88; medical school, 15; dental, 15; pharmacy, 15; civil engineering, 4; to receive degree of Ph. D., 5; to receive degree of A. B., 17; M. A., 4; and eight degrees in science.

SEBASTIAN DANHAHL  
SUCCUMBS SUDDENLY

Sebastian Danhahl, a native of Germany, died suddenly yesterday morning at his residence, 124 N street northwest. The funeral will be held at 4 o'clock tomorrow morning from St. Mary's Catholic Church. Interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Mr. Danhahl, who was seventy-five years of age, came to this country with his family in 1899. His wife died several years ago. He is survived by four sons living in this city. They are John, Joseph, Sebastian, and Anthony Danhahl.

Two other children, a son and a daughter, were among the injured, and one of the latter is dead. Bishop Hoban, of Scranton, who went down with the crash, escaped injury.

CHILD DEAD, PRIESTS HURT  
WHEN FLOORING COLLAPSED

WILKESBARRE, Pa., May 31.—A child was fatally injured and six priests were badly bruised at the laying of the cornerstone of St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church when a temporary flooring collapsed, precipitating about sixty persons into the cellar twelve feet below the level of the street.

OPPORTUNITIES THAT WAIT

Thoughts on Business—No. 46

BY

WALDO PONDRAY WARREN

NAPOLEON could have had an automobile. The principles upon which it is constructed have always existed. If men had known enough to apply those principles then, the best type of modern car might have glided down the streets of Paris a century ago. Hot water made steam back in the Carboniferous Age. Plato might have had a telephone, Alexander a phonograph, Cleopatra a steam yacht, and the speeches of Cicero might have been printed in a daily paper.

During the coming centuries many inventions will be made—but the principles upon which they are to be constructed are in existence right now, awaiting perception and application. And every improvement that will be made in every line of work—art, manufacture, commerce, agriculture, physics, and metaphysics—will merely be the discovery and unfoldment of facts that exist now.

Think of this whenever you begin to feel that you have reached the limits of development in any line of work. If the present condition seems dull, think deeply and draw upon the reserve fund of things yet to be done.

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Letters containing questions on business, unpublished incidents of business life, comments or criticisms, are welcomed by the author. Address care of The Washington Times.

Number 47 Tomorrow

District Governor Plan  
Extravagant and Unwise  
—BLADEN TO PRESIDENT

In Open Letter to Roosevelt, Washington Real Estate Owner Condemns Suggestion by Reynolds Because of Expense.

Sillman Bladen, of Boston, the brother of Thomas Bladen, of Argyle, D. C., and a part owner of large tracts of land in the Northwest section of the District, has written an open letter to the President on the Reynolds report on the District's government.

This letter, published in the Newton (Mass.) Journal, is an interesting addition to the views that have been expressed on the present form of government since the publication of the Reynolds report.

Mr. Bladen says, in part:

"Dear Mr. President: I have just read with astonishment the proposed new government for the District of Columbia, and as an old Washingtonian, in my sixty-first year, and owning property in the District, where also my family have always resided and where my dear father was born and lived all his life, accumulating considerable property, and a prominent citizen of Washington in the District of Columbia, I naturally feel interested in my old home, and also feel that I have some voice in the management of its affairs. I will state, also, that my grandfather, George Bladen, was one of the original architects on the Capitol; and my brother's family, together with himself, are now residents at the old homestead, Argyle, just outside the city."

"I have not been to Washington now for some four or five years, so I am not at present as well advised respecting its present state and condition, as regards its government, as I would be had I been there recently; nor have I heard anything about this proposed change in its government, until I read the article above mentioned; but my first impression was that it was a very bad job, and I advised to the contrary, that we had much better 'leave well enough alone.'"

"The creation of a new office of governor with a salary attached of \$10,000 a year, and then the proposed seven new offices with \$5,000 each a year, is very objectionable, and apparently unnecessary; and suggests the question: Are not some people seeking to make fat berths for themselves, at the expense of the District, for their own self-aggrandizement, and for selfish purposes, which may all be very nice for those who draw these salaries, but very unpleasant and burdensome to the poor taxpayers?"

"The only one of the five recommendations made by Mr. Reynolds, namely, the first one, 'the extension of the civil service to cover all minor offices in the District of Columbia,' seems good and advisable, but with the information I have at present, I, myself, am diametrically opposed to the other suggestions and recommendations, and especially to the high-salaried officers; for there is too much of this creation of new offices, coupled with high salaries, all over the country."

"Why, sir, right here in Boston, and in many other cities, the salaries of minor officials are being raised, and are even considering raising the salaries of some minor officials, when, instead of doing this, the earnest cry should be for the practice of the most rigid economy and the very greatest retrenchment possible."

"But, sad to say, this extravagant spendthriftiness in anticipating what God has not yet given us, and this sinful borrowing of money to expedite business, as they say, is not only to be found here in Boston, and now apparent in Washington, but it is to be found more or less all over the country."

"In the light of what I have written, and more, that might be said in the same connection, it would seem that this distance from Washington that this proposed change in its government, that is, of the District of Columbia, is entirely unnecessary and unadvisable, and such a plan would mean expense which should be avoided, and would be as said in the beginning, we had far better 'leave well enough alone.'"

"We should pay our debts, and avoid all borrowing and mortgaging, as we would shun the very 'Old Nick.' I can't understand why the good citizens of Boston should permit the awful debt that is upon this city to remain! It would seem that they should be awake at night, devising plans for its immediate payment; for it forebodes evil, and is calculated to withhold God's blessing, until He sees that the minds and hearts of Boston's citizens are aroused and bent upon its payment at once. May God deliver and keep our dear native city of Washington, from debt, now and forever."

MINING TEMPLE,  
COST \$1,000,000

DENVER, May 31.—That the Mining Temple to be erected in Denver by the National Mining Congress shall be a magnificent building, to cost \$1,000,000, was practically decided by the executive committee of the congress at a meeting in this city.

Plans will be launched at once to raise the \$1,000,000 for building the temple. The committee has issued the formal call for the next meeting of the congress at Joplin, Mo., November 11-16. The principal objects which it is hoped to discuss are the drafting of laws for the prevention of accidents in mines and the establishment of uniform laws in all States to establish a mine law, location of claims and the abolition of apex rights and the general revision of the mining laws throughout the country, so that they may be uniform in all States.

MINISTER'S KISS  
CAUSES DIVORCE

DES MOINES, Iowa, May 31.—Unable to eradicate from memory the fact that the officiating clergyman planted a warm congratulatory kiss upon the cheek of his bride one year ago, Charles T. Hogan has begun action against his wife, Grace Hogan, for divorce.

Mrs. Hogan will file a counter petition alleging unreasonable jealousy on the part of her husband. She declares that the ministerial kiss appears to be constantly on his mind. That he discusses it at his meals and reminds her of it in the night time until the taunts have become unendurable.

Mrs. Hogan says that one innocent kiss has been the "hoo-doo" of her life, and that she never wants to kiss or be kissed again.

TUG RAMS LACKAWANNA.  
LITTLE DAMAGE IS DONE

A small-sized panic was created among the many passengers on board the ferryboat Lackawanna when she was rammed by the tug Marlon Camerlin as she was starting out of her slip at Alexandria yesterday. The Lackawanna had just backed out into the river when the tug, which was coming up stream, ran head into her before she could be changed.

The captain of the tug immediately reversed his engines, and little damage was sustained by either of the vessels.

Evade Pipe Line Law;  
Shippers Discouraged,  
Hopeless of Benefit

Common Carrier Provision Without Influence on Intra-State Commerce—Independents Called Greedier Than Standard

When is a pipe line not a pipe line? When it is not an interstate pipe line. The pipe lines were made common carriers by the new rate law; but as the new law relates only to interstate business, it does not make a line entirely within a State a common carrier. And the pipe line tariffs on transportation of oil, so far as they have been filed with the interstate commission, indicate that there is small disposition to concede anything more than the law requires.

The commission has started an investigation of these tariffs. There has been made up for the commission an abstract and summary of all the tariffs filed, and when it gets time, the commission is going to familiarize itself with this new feature of its business.

The summary does not list, as having filed tariffs, any lines outside of Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, and Indiana, and with a few minor exceptions, those which have filed them have made rates only on interstate movements of oil.

Big Minimum Required.

It is not known yet just how the pipe line rates compare with those by rail, but a general survey of the tariffs indicates that the pipe line rates are about the same as rail rates would be for like distances. The pipe line companies decline to accept oil for shipment except on condition that a specified minimum—in most cases 5,000 barrels—shall be tendered for shipment at one time. One company makes the amount as low as 20,000 barrels; one or two do not fix any minimum amount that must be on hand for shipment, and the big Buckeye Pipe Line Company and the Indiana Pipe Line Company place the minimum at 300,000 barrels.

In general, the regulations made by all the companies are much the same. The present belief is that the effort to establish more equitable relations between

the Standard and the independent producers, through the provision that pipe lines shall be common carriers, has produced little result, and is likely to produce little in future. So long as oil cannot be assured the light-of-way through the pipes for intrastate as well as interstate shipment, the privilege is likely to have small effect on the conduct of the business. It is pointed out that so long as an interstate line is a common carrier for interstate business, while a line entirely within a State is not, the whole provision of the law can be avoided by the simple expedient of having different lines in different States, and there is an impression that such a device has been resorted to.

Obstacles Provided. Under the regulations generally in force, the shipper must provide storage facilities at the point of receiving. This is in itself often a prohibitive provision. It is exceedingly difficult to be assured of the supply of tank cars at a given time. Moreover, the aggregate of consignments must not only make up the minimum required, but it must all be of the same kind and quality, the shipper taking the chance of injury by reason of mixing different kinds of oil.

There are only a few of the embarrassments which present themselves to the shipper of petroleum by pipe lines. They are enough, however, to have discouraged most shippers about efforts to avail themselves of the pipe-line common-carrier privilege. There have been no complaints about regulations or charges under the pipe-line provision which is construed not as indicating general satisfaction with the law, but as indicating the greatest of pipe-line hopelessness of getting any benefit from it. It has been so widely accepted that nobody has thought it worth while to attempt to utilize it.

The Standard Oil Company, contrary to common opinion, probably does not control the greater part of pipe-line mileage in the country. The independents are said to have the larger mileage, and they are credited with less willingness to comply with the new law, by filing tariffs, etc., than the Standard itself.

Roosevelt Railroad Talk  
Styled Ill-Considered

LONDON, May 31.—Considerable attention is devoted by London newspapers today to the speech of President Roosevelt at Indianapolis, dealing with the railroad question. Varying views are expressed by the journals, which for the most part have been very friendly to Roosevelt since he entered the White House.

The Standard describes the position taken by the President as a retreat from his much advertised campaign against trusts and corporation. It adds:

"The American people will not stand Socialism, and Roosevelt's ill-considered outburst has rendered no great good."

The Chronicle, however, "cannot detect any sign of turning back," and the Morning Post editorially comments: "If he means what he says and knows what he means when he says that all he wants is to obtain an equal share in already existing in England, there is no reason why his action should any longer cause panics in the American financial world."

While pointing out that the speech contains nothing that has not already been said many times, the Standard adds: "It is marked by that robust common sense and fairness characteristic of all Mr. Roosevelt's public utterances."

The Daily News thinks the speech on the whole "is a little confusing."

HAT ONLY GARB  
SHE COULD GET

Woman Late for Divorce Says Hubby Kept Clothes.

CHICAGO, May 31.—Mrs. Alice Irene Hogan arrived late today in Judge McEwen's court, where her appearance was necessary for the trial of her suit for divorce against G. Frank Hogan, president of the Hogan Envelope Company.

"Your honor, I wish to apologize for being late," explained she, nervously, "but my husband refused to let me get my clothes out of our flat. All he gave me was a big picture hat. Your honor will agree with me that it would be impossible to wear such clothes in court."

The granting of the divorce to Mrs. Hogan revealed Mr. Hogan's failure to carry out an agreement signed by his wife and himself on May 8, in which he promised ever afterward to be a "model husband."

BABY'S APPEAL  
FREES HER PAPA

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—A relenting wife, a tiny daughter, and a handsome, stylishly groomed sister joined in pleading with Judge W. J. Pollard in the Second district police court for leniency toward Thomas Broderick, who was on trial on a charge of disturbing the peace, preferred by his wife.

Upon the united plea of the three, particularly of Baby Ida, a mite of a child three and a half years old, who cried continually that she wanted her "papa," the "Polka-dot" pledge was administered to Broderick.

Broderick is a good-looking fellow of thirty-five years and is said to be a college-bred man.

DROWNS HER BABY,  
MOTHER CONFESSES

CHICAGO, May 31.—Mary Lapalla, who has been living in Bryan avenue, Rogers Park, has confessed that she killed her two weeks' old daughter by throwing her into the lake. The body of the child was discovered floating near the shore. The young woman was arrested later as the result of an identification of the child's body by Miss Anna Paulson, a nurse in the Beulah Home, on North Clark street, where it had been born. From the nurse the police obtained trace of Miss Lapalla.

ROOSEVELT CRITICISED  
BY JUDGE WALLACE

NEW YORK, May 31.—Former Judge William J. Wallace, at a dinner given in his honor by the bar of New York State, sharply criticised President Roosevelt for his attitude toward corporations and bitterly denounced the assaults on property made in the guise of legislation. He said: "The Republican party, which is present leader-ship, has entered into a mad race with the leaders of the Democratic party to capture the votes of the discontented, the prejudiced, the unthinking, and the fanatical believers in socialistic theories."

WILLIAM MASON CAUGHT  
BY PHILADELPHIA POLICE

William Mason, colored, who is wanted here on charges of grand larceny and housebreaking, is under arrest in Philadelphia, according to a dispatch received this morning at police headquarters.

It is alleged that Mason broke into the barber shop of Louis Landrick, 1507 Locust street, at a dinner given in his honor by the bar of New York State, sharply criticised President Roosevelt for his attitude toward corporations and bitterly denounced the assaults on property made in the guise of legislation. He said: "The Republican party, which is present leader-ship, has entered into a mad race with the leaders of the Democratic party to capture the votes of the discontented, the prejudiced, the unthinking, and the fanatical believers in socialistic theories."

Detective Weedon will go to Philadelphia for the prisoner this afternoon.